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May 14, 2015

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: 
Sheryl L. Spiller, Director

**SUBJECT: MOTION BY SUPERVISOR RIDLEY-THOMAS ON IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE EXPRESS LANE ENROLLMENT PROJECT (ITEM NO. 2,
JUNE 4, 2014)**

This is to provide you with our monthly status report on the Department of Public Social Services' (DPSS) progress in implementing the Express Lane Medi-Cal (ELMC) Project to provide Medi-Cal coverage to CalFresh participants. Below is a summary of our outreach efforts and data on the number of enrollments.

On June 4, 2014, on a motion by Supervisor Ridley-Thomas, the Board instructed the Director of DPSS to fully implement the Express Lane streamlined eligibility process described in the State Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) All County Welfare Directors Letter and the Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services Guidance. DPSS was instructed to report back to the Board in writing within 60 days and monthly thereafter.

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

In the March 2015 update, we informed you that we had not yet received the March 2015 report and the report would be included with this update. According to DHCS, in March 2015, 35,523 participants were enrolled in ELMC. As of April 30, 2015, 36,306 CalFresh participants were enrolled in ELMC in Los Angeles County. Please note that the number of CalFresh participants enrolled in ELMC changes each month; individuals exit when they are approved for Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) Medi-Cal, when their CalFresh case is closed, or when they are no longer eligible to ELMC. Therefore, some CalFresh participants identified in our previous report may no longer be enrolled in ELMC, but may continue to have Medi-Cal coverage.

DPSS continues to offer eligible participants the opportunity to opt-in during every point of contact, particularly during their CalFresh recertification interviews. During April 2015,

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we outreached to 2,325 CalFresh households that do not already have Medi-Cal to encourage enrollment into ELMC. As a result, 1,763 CalFresh participants opted to enroll in ELMC. Of those who declined, the main stated reasons included: other healthcare coverage; only want CalFresh benefits; will apply for ELMC later; and not interested. As reported in our last update, in addition to two prior mailings sent by the State, the Department is mailing a special notice to CalFresh households who are eligible to ELMC, to once again offer them the opportunity to enroll.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at (562) 908-8383, or your staff may contact Jose R. Perez, Assistant Director, at (562) 908-8633, or via email at joseperez@dpss.lacounty.gov.

SLS:ca

c: Interim Chief Executive Officer
Acting Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel